

Genius 1381

Chapter 1381: Flying Dragon Goes to Sea!

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The salvage ship deployed an extra-large fishing net. The mesh wasn't very large, but small fish could easily slip through.

As for the larger fish, they had no choice but to be caught in the net and hauled up together...

Compared to this sturdy net, even if those fish were slightly larger and stronger, the damage to the net itself was minimal.

But the greatest fear for these salvage ships is encountering a giant creature like a whale during salvage...

If a whale accidentally gets caught, it may suffer greatly or even get trapped, but its massive body and terrifying strength pose a significant threat to the salvage ship itself and could even destroy the treasures inside the sunken ship...

Imagine a giant whale over ten meters long, trapped in a strong net, thrashing around and causing havoc inside.

The force of a fish in water is immense, let alone a whale. Although the ship appears to be twice the size of the whale, in a real fight, the ship may not stand a chance against it...

That's why the captain ordered to slow down and avoid disturbing the whale as much as possible.

Now, hearing it's just a sea serpent, the captain relaxed considerably.

Sea serpents are slender, invertebrate soft-bodied creatures. The mesh of their fishing net is large enough for a serpent to wriggle through even if caught...

With this, the captain wasn't particularly worried.

"Continue lowering the net, continue lowering..."

Sensing no need for worry, time became the most crucial factor, and the captain immediately commanded to lower the net. Time is money, and every delay could ruin things; he certainly didn't want to waste any.

But then...

"Captain, Captain..."

Before he could do anything, the sailor responsible for radar observation called out.

"What's wrong now?"

The captain was furious, more infuriated than ever. This boy had no sense; the captain thought of firing him immediately upon return for talking way too much.

"The sea serpent... the sea serpent... has bitten into our cable... and... and..."

The sailor, intimidated by the captain, stammered nervously, pointing at the radar screen, unable to articulate a single complete sentence for quite a while.

"Damn it, spit it out... What sea serpent bit the cable? What the hell are you talking about?"

Even angrier, the captain was determined to fire this boy, cursing under his breath while walking over to check the radar screen.

"Ugh..."

But at that sight, he realized the sailor was right; the slender-bodied "sea serpent" indeed had its jaws on the cable they had deployed.

Almost simultaneously, the sailor responsible for deploying the cable and fishing net up front shouted, "Captain, the cable is stuck..."

"Shit..."

Without even acknowledging the crew's wails, the captain cursed at the radar screen.

Why?

Because he witnessed with his own eyes, the "sea serpent" biting their cable and racing up from the depths of the sea at high speed.

The other end of the cable was connected to the fishing net, and as the "sea serpent" shook it and swam away, it pulled up the nearly fully deployed net along with it.

On the radar, it was clearly visible that the "sea serpent" was pulling the cable rapidly from the seabed to the surface, at a speed visible to the naked eye.

If they weren't sure the "sea serpent" wouldn't crash directly into their hull, they would have already sailed away.

"Captain, Captain... it's coming towards us... straight towards us!"

Even so, the observing sailor, eyes glued to the radar, trembled and spoke with disbelief, his tone a blend of terror and a hint of despair, as if the end of the world was upon them.

Smack~~

"Shut up!"

This boy was too faint-hearted, scared out of his wits at such a sight. The captain slapped him hard, followed by a stern admonition.

This was no time to panic. If all crew members acted like this boy, they'd never survive at sea.

This was merely a mischievous sea serpent, nothing to be overly concerned about, no need for such a fuss...

If he was scared by this, how would he cope with storms and tornadoes at sea? The boy would be scared to death...

"Woo woo woo!~~"

The captain's tone was extremely harsh, instantly scaring the young man into silence, all he could do was shrink his neck and hide to the side, not daring to make any sound.

The captain was quite satisfied with this outcome, so he ignored him and turned to consider how to handle the current situation.

"Captain, it hasn't slowed down..."

After getting a scolding from the captain, the young man became much more obedient and didn't dare to overreact, yet seeing the speed displayed on the radar, he couldn't help but remind him.

"It hasn't slowed down yet..."

This time, even the captain sensed something was wrong.

According to the radar data, this "sea serpent" was only tens of meters from the surface of the sea; if it didn't decelerate now, it might directly burst out of the water's surface.

If it were just ordinary fish jumping out of water, at most, they would splash around in mid-air and then continue to fall back into the sea, having almost no impact.

But the problem was, this "sea serpent" was incredibly large, more than ten meters long. With such a high-speed charge, its breaching height could be very high, and it was towing that massive trawl...

If the trawl was forcibly pulled out of the water, and then dropped down, considering the angle driven by this sea serpent, it might end up covering the entire ship...

Deploying such a large net is exhausting enough, let alone recovering it, which is another ordeal... And that's just retrieving it from the sea.

But if the whole net covered the ship, the retrieval would be even more challenging...

If it really came to that, their salvage operation would surely fail, and merely recovering the net would exhaust them.

"Everyone, on alert, grab your gear..."

At the thought of this, the captain's face turned grim, that was not the outcome he wanted, so he immediately gave an order.

All the crew, upon hearing the order, were stunned for a moment but quickly put down their tasks and rushed to the cabin to fetch their gear.

The sailors on these salvage boats were not the kindest sorts; they generally had some weapons, and some Lu Song fishing boats and salvage boats would occasionally moonlight as pirates, robbing passing merchant ships.

This boat was no exception, and naturally, it carried quite a few weapons.

Soon, the sailors emerged, each holding equipment in their hands, ranging from pistols and spearguns to other similar weapons.

Although not particularly powerful in firepower, they were more than sufficient for dealing with those marine creatures, and even when encountering fierce Great White Sharks or killer whales, they were fearless.

Splaaash~~~

Almost as soon as the sailors were ready, they heard a giant splash on the sea surface, the water constantly churning. It was clear something large and fierce was lurking.

Everyone appeared extremely tense as that "sea serpent" was about to emerge... they all raised their gear simultaneously, aiming at that position.

Splaaaaaash~~~

Finally...

The "sea serpent" emerged!

A gigantic, peculiar head first burst out, looking incredibly bizarre, with two enormous horns. At that moment, its bloody mouth was biting onto that thick cable, and glimpses of its sharp teeth could be seen...

Subsequently, the slender silver body gradually emerged from the water. Amidst the shimmering waves, the scales on the silvery body cast off a dazzling glow, making it quite hard to keep one's eyes open.

"What is... this monster?"

Everyone was stunned. Such a monster had never been seen before, seeming not like any known creature, almost as if it was some mythical being.

"Take action..."

But compared to the sailors' shock, the captain was far more resolute, quickly snapping out of his astonishment and roaring in rage.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh~~

Rat-a-tat-tat~~~

With the captain's roar, the sailors snapped back to reality too, raising their weapons and firing at the slender "monster" rapidly emerging from the sea surface.

This wasn't any monster; it was precisely what Qin Fang had sent to deal with this salvage ship.

Just as Little Dragon emerged from the sea surface, it was immediately attacked by the sailors on the salvage ship, with bullets pouring onto it as if they cost nothing, alongside the sharp spearguns all aimed at its body.

Clang clang clang~~

Ping ping ping~~

When these bullets and spearguns struck Little Dragon's body, colliding with the Dragon Scales within its body, they made sounds as if hitting metal, with the noise being exceptionally crisp.

The Dragon Scales themselves were Little Dragon's strongest surface defense, not easily broken through... even facing these bullets and spearguns, they couldn't harm it.

Chapter 1382 -: Turning Rivers and Crossing Seas!!

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Roar~~~

Whether it was from being pricked or enraged, Little Dragon immediately let out a thunderous dragon roar, a reverberating sound that echoed across a thousand miles.

Even Qin Fang and Tang Feifei, who were far away, couldn't help but cover their ears when they heard it; the sound was simply too overwhelming.

"This little guy sure knows how to make noise..."

With nothing else to do, Qin Fang jokingly said to Tang Feifei, which made Tang Feifei agree deeply; the noise was incredibly loud.

"Ahhh~~"

Qin Fang and the others were far enough away, but the salvage ship nearest to the sound source wasn't so lucky. Almost everyone on board was completely stunned by the sudden roar of the dragon.

Each desperately covered their ears, letting out heart-wrenching screams, as if their eardrums had shattered.

At that moment, almost everyone was completely deaf, all holding their ears. Some who were closer and had sensitive hearing, their ear canals were already bleeding profusely...

Little Dragon merely opened its mouth, instantly incapacitating over half of the ship's crew. Only a few were sheltering in the cabin, possibly already wearing headphones - like the sailor monitoring the radar, while others had their ears ravaged.

"Damn it, I won't let you off, monster!"

The captain wasn't much better off. His ears could only hear buzzing sounds and nothing else. Looking at the rapidly ascending Little Dragon, the captain was furious and immediately snatched a gun from a nearby subordinate, aiming it at Little Dragon...

Tat-tat-tat-tat-tat~~

The bullets poured out like they cost nothing, continuously striking at Little Dragon's body.

"I'll kill you too..."

"Kill! Kill! Kill..."

The other crew members gradually recovered somewhat. Although their ears were still malfunctioning, their eyes could see the captain firing wildly, so many also grabbed guns and began shooting.

Tat-tat-tat-tat-tat~~

In an instant, bullets were frantically showered out, the gunfire heard even distantly by Qin Fang and the others.

"Qin Fang, Little Dragon... will it be okay?"

Listening to the dense gunfire, Tang Feifei and the others clearly saw Little Dragon, already flying out of the sea, but it was too far to tell if the bullets were harming it. Tang Feifei couldn't help but ask worriedly.

"Don't worry, these bullets can't hurt it..."

Qin Fang, though unable to see, could communicate with Little Dragon using his Mind, knowing it was unharmed, the bullets couldn't break through Dragon Scales, so he reassured Tang Feifei.

"As long as it's fine, as long as it's fine..."

Tang Feifei carefully observed Qin Fang's expression; seeing there was no worry on his face, not just saying it to comfort her, she then felt relieved.

In the distance...

Little Dragon burst through the sea surface, its speed still incredibly fast, its entire body already out, unaffected by the bullets and harpoons.

Even, with a slight flick of its tail, its body seemed to suddenly gain strength, soaring swiftly into the air.

"Is this really the legendary Flying Dragon in the Sky?"

Qin Fang couldn't help but remark.

Dragons are the absolute rulers underwater, but legends say dragons can also Cloud Walking Rain Summoning, meaning they can fly in the sky.

Little Dragon seems not yet at that level, unable to fly freely in the sky, but at least soaring to a certain height is no problem. Moreover, it had already started accelerating from the depths.

Little Dragon's body completely left the water, its slender body of over ten meters sprang into mid-air, despite the frenzied attacks from the ship's crew, yet they failed to harm it.

But Little Dragon is very wise, though the numerous bullets couldn't threaten it, the constant impact on its Dragon Scales made it feel very uncomfortable, realizing the deep hostility from these humans.

Roar~~

Such great hostility naturally triggered Little Dragon's immense displeasure, so it let out another thunderous roar, seemingly a bit angered.

"Uh... This little guy is angry!"

The dragon roar wasn't as loud as before but faintly carried a strong Dragon Might; Qin Fang also revealed a wry smile.

"They treated it like that, I'd be angry too..."

Tang Feifei clearly stood by Little Dragon, dissatisfied with the crew's attack, spoke fiercely.

"Alright then, since even you support it, I won't say more..."

Qin Fang revealed a wry smile, some words reached the tip of his tongue, but he ultimately didn't say them, speaking in a tone full of helplessness.

"That was just an appetizer, the main course is yet to come..."

Then he looked toward the distant salvage ship, expressing calmly.

From his seemingly calm words, a faint sense of killing intent could be perceived...

Chapter 1383: Turning Rivers and Crossing Seas!!_2

"It's not going to make it, keep attacking..."

Little Dragon's deep roar echoed in the sailors' ears. It wasn't a sign of anger, but of injury and weakness, prompting the sailors, whose hearing was just recovering, to roar their commands.

Thus, all the guns were loaded with bullets to continue attacking Little Dragon, with harpoons frenziedly being launched at it, trying to kill the completely unrecognizable "monster" with the strongest attacks.

What kind of "monster" that seems to have never appeared in the world could it be? It must be an extraordinarily rare species, and capturing it could perhaps outweigh the profit from salvaging this shipwreck...

The more they thought like this, the more ferocious their efforts became...

It's just that they may not realize the more they do, the more severe the consequences. You can tell just by looking at the faint rage released from Little Dragon's eyes.

Clearly, the sailors on this ship completely infuriated it...

Little Dragon was, after all, the overlord of the waters, an absolutely ferocious and terrifying presence.

At sea, it's worth noting that offending the Dragon King is never wise... Though the Dragon King is a legendary entity, Little Dragon is such an entity before them.

Roar~~~

Another earth-shattering dragon roar.

The surrounding sea instantly became agitated, with waves violently surging as if becoming exceptionally turbulent.

Yet the surrounding sea breeze was incredibly calm, showing no sign of a storm, but the seawaves were somehow agitated, appearing particularly eerie.

The sailors on the ship were seasoned sailors, accustomed to the ocean, who couldn't possibly miss such an anomaly, but they were all too busy dealing with Little Dragon in the sky to notice the changes in the sea.

"Qin Fang, what's Little Dragon doing?"

Even as Tang Feifei observed, the commotion on the sea was clearly visible, although it was not as significant as the disturbance on the other side.

Having submerged under the ocean before, Tang Feifei felt something off upon examining the situation, quickly deduced it was Little Dragon's doing, and couldn't help but ask Qin Fang.

"They angered it. Little Dragon is furious..."

Qin Fang touched his nose and said, it was only because Tang Feifei supported Little Dragon earlier that Qin Fang agreed to Little Dragon's retaliatory actions after.

Tang Feifei also gazed open-mouthed at the distant sky, curious about how Little Dragon would retaliate.

Just at this moment,

While Qin Fang and Tang Feifei were talking,

Little Dragon acted!

Its massive tail swung in the air, and its elongated, colossal body tugged the thick rope and the enormous fishing net, flying towards the opposite side of the salvage ship.

The huge fishing net flew off the ship, and the meshes were immediately caught by the mast on the ship.

But Little Dragon was unaffected, continuing to pull the rope through the air, diving straight towards the sea... The thick rope heavily struck the ship's hull, leaving a deep mark.

"Oh no..."

Seeing this, the captain's face immediately changed, letting out an exclamation.

This was no child's play; the fishing net was caught on the ship but still connected with the rope, which Little Dragon had clenched in its mouth, pulling it down into the sea.

With its immense strength pulling it diagonally downwards, their ship was about to completely tip over, capsizing in an instant.

"Life rafts, quickly, life rafts..."

By now, anyone could see that this "monster" had been enraged by them and now intended to flip the ship.

Or, in fact, capsizing was nearly inevitable.

With their strength, rescuing the ship was impossible...

Here in the vast ocean, once the ship goes silent, they'd lose their support, their only salvation found in quickly latching onto a life raft, preserving life perhaps.

Otherwise, they'd be swallowed by the ruthless sea...

These people were dumbfounded, never anticipating events to reach this point, only able to shout as they scrambled for the life raft, the wiser ones grabbing whatever food supplies they could.

Bang~~

And nearly as the life raft was swiftly released by the crowd, the huge salvage ship was tilted sideways by the thick rope.

The steel hull slapped the water's surface with a startling crash, unleashing enormous waves that instantly propelled the rubber life raft tens of meters away.

And that was just the beginning...

A huge water column churned up, forming a massive water tornado, hurtling towards their life raft...

Such a water tornado aboard the ocean is an extraordinarily terrifying annihilator, any vessel encountering it must steer well clear.

Even a United States aircraft carrier wouldn't be exempt from this; the destruction of the water tornado is exceedingly astonishing, should it truly enclose the life raft, the occupants could wind up hundreds of kilometers away... Essentially, no one survives!

"Little Dragon, that's enough..."

Fortunately as the water tornado was imminent on its target, when the sailors nearly all closed their eyes awaiting death, Qin Fang's voice suddenly resonated in Little Dragon's heart.

Roar~~

Upon hearing Qin Fang's words, Little Dragon immediately issued an earth-shattering roar, seemingly expressing its intent, although ultimately bending to Qin Fang's will.

Only to see Little Dragon's body rise from the sea surface, its enormous form approached the water tornado, extending its relatively small dragon claw, lightly pressing upon the tornado, which instantly dissipated into a torrential downpour.

The water tornado vanished, promptly dispersing into nothingness, leaving behind the heavy rain that drenched everyone aboard the life raft to the bone...

"Dragon... It's a dragon! The legendary Divine Dragon... it's the totem of Dragon Country!"

And just at this moment, someone finally recognized Little Dragon, exclaiming loudly in astonishment, dejection, and fear.

Lu Song once belonged to Dragon Country, but sadly now this small nation is assertive enough to challenge its former master.

The Chinese in Lu Song are not many, with dragon symbols quite rare, only prepared for special occasions involving dragon and lion dances, initially unrecognized by these Lu Song natives.

But now, someone realized it at last, screaming aloud.

"Dragon Country's totem?"

Upon hearing this, the captain immediately froze, looking at the towering figure standing upon the sea, glaring at them with a savage gaze from Little Dragon, his body shivering uncontrollably.

As the totem of Dragon Country, the legendary guardian of Dragon Country, the absolute ruler of the seas... Dragons are undeniably terrifying existences.

And now, it has demonstrated this with actual fact.

While flipping the salvage ship relied on Little Dragon's formidable power coupled with the sensible use of tools, the forming and dissipating of the water tornado wholly manifested Little Dragon's terrifying control over water.

This isn't the Lu Song sea, instead the Dragon Country waters.

The dragon is undoubtedly the protector of these waters, its sudden appearance surely provoked by their unauthorized incursion to salvage the shipwreck...

At Little Dragon's appearance, they not only failed to cease activities but actively attacked the ocean's guardian... Hence its ruthless retaliation on them was only to be expected.

If not for Little Dragon's restraint, its very water tornado could annihilate them all...

Roar~~

The sound of another resonant dragon roar entered everyone's ears, seemingly conveying a singular message to them... "Go!"

Chapter 1384: Who is Behind the Scenes?

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This wasn't conveyed through words, but it seemed as if everyone felt this meaning in their hearts.

At the same time, the deafening roar of the dragon seemed to strike heavily on everyone's heart, making their faces turn ashen pale, leaving an indelible shadow in their hearts.

Perhaps, these people could miraculously survive and return to Lu Song, but this incident would become a shadow in their lives, one they would never forget.

And when others asked what happened at the time, they would always recall the scene in great fear, besides exclaiming "Sea Dragon King," "Sea Dragon King," they would tell everyone that the Dragon Country's sea area is guarded by a Divine Dragon, who dares trespass, shall be destroyed by the Divine Dragon...

Such rumors were originally extremely unreliable, even if these twenty or thirty people spoke in unison, it still wasn't very convincing.

However, an opportunity came later with a picture from the United States, confirming this. It was said that a military satellite happened to fly over this sea area at this time, taking this picture.

Only, such a sea creature like a Divine Dragon, destroyed a salvage ship but didn't kill these Lu Song monkeys, which became an unsolved mystery!

"Alas, it's time to go back..."

After Little Dragon took care of that ship and drove away the Lu Song monkeys, he returned to Qin Fang's side. Seeing the time of day, most of it had already passed, and it was time to return.

"Time flies so fast..."

Tang Feifei said with some sentiment.

Swimming freely with Little Dragon in the sea, indeed, they didn't expect time to pass so quickly, and it was already time to go back.

Actually, they could continue to stay in the sea, and casually find a secluded uninhabited island to rest for the night without any problem.

With water and food, Qin Fang didn't lack anything, he wouldn't be trapped in the ocean like others.

But several people knew about their outing this time, and having been out for almost a day already, if they didn't return, the resort over there might turn upside down with worry.

Moreover, Qin Fang wanted to find out who sent the attackers on that ship, holding such a huge grudge against him.

"Little Dragon, let's go..."

At Qin Fang's command, Little Dragon carried Qin Fang and Tang Feifei toward the Nanshan Island sea area, traveling mostly underwater for stealth, avoiding discovery, and eliminating the risk of being photographed by satellites from certain nations.

Of course, it also prevented an encounter with the Dragon Country navy, which would truly be a case of mistaken identity...

Little Dragon was incredibly swift in the sea, with a much more accurate sense of direction than Qin Fang, and they crossed the vast South Sea in just more than an hour, reaching the vicinity of the Nanshan Island sea area...

Upon reaching these coastal waters, Qin Fang retracted Little Dragon and with Tang Feifei, they leisurely swam back towards Nanshan Island.

This stretch of distance wasn't too much of a problem for him, and it was a chance for Tang Feifei to practice swimming as well.

When they were about 500 meters from Nanshan Island, they were rescued by the Nanshan Island Resort's rescue fleet and successfully returned to the resort.

The mysterious sinking of the speedboat, and swimming back from the sea effortlessly, was a feat that amazed the rescue personnel.

Only noting Qin Fang's ease and composed demeanor, clearly a swimming expert, with such strong abilities indeed, and they were most surprised by their incredible luck, having swum for so long without encountering any marine beasts like sharks...

But it was best that they were unharmed, at least their boss wouldn't have a headache over this. After all, those who came here for a vacation weren't just any young masters; if any one of them had an accident, even Young Master Song of the Song Family wouldn't be able to handle the fallout...

Thus, Qin Fang and Tang Feifei safely returned to Nanshan Island, and upon hearing of Qin Fang's ordeal, Qu Yuancheng, Kong Er, and others quickly came by to offer their comfort, finding that while they were shocked, the outcome was remarkably fortunate, with no real danger.

Qin Fang didn't disclose the attack they faced, and Tang Feifei naturally followed his lead as if nothing had happened, aiding Qin Fang in investigating the mastermind behind the incident.

Qin Fang's whereabouts weren't particularly secretive, but he wasn't famous on Hong Kong Island, with few knowing him, and even fewer on this Nanshan Island aside from his team.

However, the mastermind could gather such a group to strike when he went to sea, indicating a deep-seated enmity with Qin Fang.

Originally, Qin Fang planned to find out who the mastermind was from Brother Xiong, which is why he ultimately made a move against Brother Xiong, intending to take advantage of Brother Xiong's fear and terror to use the Mind Reading Technique to probe this secret from the depths of Brother Xiong's heart...

However, Brother Xiong was even more decisive than Qin Fang had imagined; he directly detonated a bomb, intending to perish together with Qin Fang. Although this idea ultimately did not come to fruition, it also prevented Qin Fang from uncovering this secret.

"Could it be those two idiots, Fan Xian and Zhou Fengliu?"

Thinking about it, at the resort, it seemed only those two had some minor grievances with him. To put it bluntly, Qin Fang had given those two spoiled young masters of noble families a hard lesson, making them suffer bitterly.

This grudge, though not significant, might not seem minor to Fan Xian and Zhou Fengliu, as it made them the laughing stock of the entire elite circle on Hong Kong Island.

"It shouldn't be, right... Even if there's a grudge, it shouldn't warrant killing to silence?"

But upon reflection, Qin Fang found it unlikely.

Not to mention that although Fan Xian and Zhou Fengliu were jerks, they had done numerous bad things, but committing murder or arson seemed far-fetched.

The legal system on Hong Kong Island has improved significantly; although the young masters of noble families have legal teams to assist, committing a serious crime like murder is no trivial matter.

Hurting someone or other lesser charges, they might settle out of court with compensation, but if it turns into a murder case, it becomes an unmanageable major crime, something these young masters of noble origins know far better than Qin Fang...

Moreover, those pursuing Qin Fang were clearly not good people at first glance, definitely some habitual criminals who have done many evil deeds. Although they took a job, it shouldn't have much to do with the two noble young masters, as it's unlikely they would know such ruthless criminals.

"If it's not them, then who could it be?"

But excluding these two, Qin Fang couldn't think of anyone who hated him so much as to be eager to kill him...

...

Somewhere at the resort.

"What? They came back?"

When Fan Xian heard this news, he was utterly shocked, his expression turning unspeakably grim, casting a gloomy look at his underlings before him.

"Damn it, a bunch of useless trash, I raise you all this time and you can't even handle such a trivial matter, utterly useless..."

The more he thought about it, the angrier he got, just short of smacking all these underlings down individually.

"Young master, we didn't mean to... We followed all the way, but we never found their tracks... In that sea area, we searched meticulously but found no sign of anyone or any boat... And we also heard they encountered a sea accident, even the boat sank, but who would've thought..."

These underlings, followers were all on edge, finally, one who appeared to be the leader spoke cautiously.

"Shut up... Can't even handle such a trivial matter, and dare to make so many excuses... Keep blabbering, and I'll fire all of you... Truly a bunch of useless trash... Immediately take a boat and leave Nanshan Island, seeing you all makes me furious..."

Fan Xian was also quite frustrated; if not for these underlings' past diligent work, he would've fired them all long ago.

Even so, he didn't want to see them anymore and immediately sent them off Nanshan Island.

He did send people to follow Qin Fang and their group out to sea, but these underlings were not professional trackers, only able to follow from a distance. They lost sight of Qin Fang's boat not long after going out to sea, only able to pursue in a presumed direction...

What happened next was predictable; they only knew where Qin Fang's boat headed, searching all around that sea area until they heard an explosion, then pursued in that direction.

But by the time they arrived, both ships had already sunk one after the other, leaving no trace behind, so naturally, they found nothing.

The criminal gang on that boat also all perished at sea, and as for Qin Fang and Tang Feifei, they had long been stealthily taken hundreds of kilometers away by Little Dragon; if they had found them, it would indeed be a miracle...

As Qin Fang and his group returned, nominally swimming back, in reality, these people waited on the sea surface for a long time without seeing a single shadow, yet Qin Fang and his group suddenly returned, catching them completely off guard...

Faced with such a master with a temper not too good, being scolded like this was very understandable, and not getting fired was considered their good luck...

Thus, under Fan Xian's outburst, failing to accomplish their task, they could only dejectedly take a boat and leave Nanshan Island...

Chapter 1385: Birthday Banquet!

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While Qin Fang was puzzled about who the black hand behind this matter was, Fan Xian had already driven everyone away. Although Qin Fang had heard the news, it made it even clearer that this matter had nothing to do with Fan Xian.

The few underlings found were nothing more than ordinary followers and bodyguards. They might be able to bully regular people, but thinking of dealing with Qin Fang, they really weren't worth mentioning.

Moreover, the people who attacked him on that boat were obviously seasoned bandits who had killed many. And all of them had been shot dead by him, with no survivors left, which made them nothing like Fan Xian's people...

After excluding Fan Xian and Zhou Fengliu, Qin Fang still didn't know who was behind it.

Yet, faintly, Qin Fang felt that the black hand should still be on Nanshan Island, but he just didn't know who it was.

Qin Fang had many enemies, both on the Mainland and Hong Kong Island, and even in places like Anlang, Lu Song, Japan, and so on...

But those who could have followed all the way here seemed to be not many. Thinking it over, Qin Fang could not figure out who it could be.

Unable to think of anyone, Qin Fang decided not to waste any more brain cells on it, pretending that nothing had happened, quietly awaiting the next move by the black hand.

If one plan fails, there will certainly be a second and a third, and Qin Fang can only wait for the opponent to make their move.

Unfortunately, until Qin Fang and his group left Nanshan Island, the black hand did not launch another attack. It's unknown whether they had no people or hadn't found the right opportunity...

The three-day trip to Nanshan Island eventually came to a satisfactory end. Although many people felt it wasn't particularly satisfying, at least the Nanshan Island Resort had left a place in the heart of this wealthy young master, and Young Master Song's planning this time was considered relatively successful.

Qin Fang and his group boarded Kong Er's luxury yacht to return, marking the end of this trip, and they were heading towards the most important festival for Dragon Country People.

The Spring Festival is a time for reunion, for the whole family to gather together.

For the Qu Family, it was the first time in over twenty years that the family was so complete, and they were all very excited. But for the Qin Family, it was another matter.

Although they acknowledged the Qu Family, it did not mean Qin Fang had forgiven them; at least, the knot in his heart was difficult to remove.

Not only him, Qin Qing was the same; although she kept a smile, beneath her gaze lay deep loneliness.

Such a scene, falling into Qin Fang's eyes, also made Qin Fang very depressed. He really wanted to tell his mother... his father might still be alive!

But in the end, he didn't say it, first because he still knew nothing about Qin Tiannan's situation on Devil's Island, and second because he didn't know when he could rescue his father Qin Tiannan...

Originally, Qin Fang didn't have much hope of rescuing his father, mainly due to some strength disparities and the treacherousness of Devil's Island.

But the return of Little Dragon significantly increased Qin Fang's chances of success.

Qin Fang's strength had grown immensely, and the Little Dragon lurking within Qin Fang had greatly benefited as well. The rapid growth of Little Dragon was thanks to Qin Fang's pure True Qi nourishment, and also the warming effects of the Peerless Elixir Golden Dragon Saliva...

The Golden Dragon is the king among the Dragon Clan.

This Golden Dragon Saliva, as the name implies, is the saliva of the Golden Dragon, though the saliva of the Golden Dragon clearly couldn't constitute a superb elixir; it's merely a metaphor since the Dragon Clan doesn't actually exist in this world.

However, it illustrates the power of this superb elixir from another angle.

Little Dragon is a true member of the Dragon Clan, and it's hard to say which is superior when compared to the Golden Dragon. At least Qin Fang doesn't know, but this superb elixir greatly benefits it.

If it could directly absorb it, Qin Fang would want to get more for it to feast on...

Being nurtured by Qin Fang's True Qi, Little Dragon grows very fast. Although external Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi is quite scarce, it can store some itself, and this Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi is enough for it to stay outside for some time.

This is also why Little Dragon can be out for so long this time...

Where exactly Devil's Island is located, Qin Fang doesn't know. In the entire underground world, it is a secret. Many who have been there don't even know either.

Rumor has it that it's an isolated island in the middle of a vast sea, which is clearly good news for Qin Fang, for as long as it's in the sea, Qin Fang's chances of success will increase a lot.

Little Dragon is a sea overlord; its powerful water control skills will undoubtedly help a lot. Once he finds his father Qin Tiannan, they can leave directly via the sea route.

On Devil's Island, all modern positioning facilities for humans will fail, but Little Dragon is born with the ability to guide directions. Unless Devil's Island doesn't exist in this world, Little Dragon can easily leave from any corner of the ocean...

Qin Fang's confidence has increased a lot, so he is secretly contemplating snapping up a spot when it comes time for the underground world's selection to enter Devil's Island.

His mother's age is increasing, and her relatives are so few. Now, Old Madame Qu's lifespan is almost over; it won't be long before she passes away. At that time, Qin Qing will inevitably be very sad. Elder Master Qu has hurt her heart, has not yet received her forgiveness, so counting around, her relatives are only Qin Fang and the husband who disappeared two decades ago, Qin Tiannan...

Thinking this way, Qin Fang's urge to bring back his father becomes increasingly strong.

However, this still needs careful consideration; it's not something he can do just because he wants to. The underground world is not somewhere governed by his words alone, at least not until he successfully crowns as King of Assassins...

The Spring Festival is a time for reunion, but for Qin Fang, it's only so-so. Although he symbolically attended the Qu Family's banquet, his enthusiasm was obviously not very high, which many at the scene could see.

Fortunately, nothing unpleasant happened; at least Second Young Master Qu, Qu Yuanliang, didn't dare stir up trouble... his injuries hadn't fully healed, so he naturally didn't want new ones.

Yet from Qu Yuanliang's gaze, it was clear that this guy was still very hostile to Qin Fang... which was within Qin Fang's expectations. If Qu Yuanliang behaved overly friendly, Qin Fang would be more on alert instead.

A few days later, the Old Madame's birthday celebration was gradually approaching...

The Qu Family is one of the Ten Great Families; the Old Madame Qu's birthday feast, being her last, is naturally very grand.

Reportedly, the Qu Family plans to host a grand banquet for relatives and friends, with a continuous feast of at least over three hundred tables...

This birthday banquet was not held at the Qu Family Manor but at the old Qu Family residence, the birthplace of the Qu Family. Years ago, it was entirely bought by the Qu Family, and the surrounding residents were old neighbors of the Qu Family. Although many have left or dispersed, many remain alive over these years, including not a few long-time employees of the Qu Corporation...

Eating the birthday banquet, distributing red packets, these are all given activities. But the real focus is, of course, the people from the Ten Great Families and many collaborators of the Qu Corporation...

Harbor Island Intercontinental Hotel.

Old Madame Qu's grand birthday, the hotel's top three floors of banquet halls were booked entirely for seven days, with the cost of just this one event soaring to tens of millions, showcasing the scale of this occasion, unlike anything mere businessmen could match...

The Old Madame's birthday banquet was very grand, but not everyone was entitled to attend. Even the invitation cards sent out by the Qu Family had different designs, divided into three tiers, corresponding to the three floors...

Though they were all guests, there were distinctions in their identities. The family heads from the Ten Great Families naturally belonged in the top floor banquet hall, while the next tier could only be on the floor below, and some that were just there to eat couldn't enjoy equality and could only be on the bottom floor.

Likewise, some of Qu Corporation's collaborators, such as company shareholders, both major and minor, and presidents and vice presidents of different branches, also had to be treated accordingly, as not all could be treated equally.

Some of the top guests, such as those from the Ten Great Families and some company shareholders, and senior executives were to be hosted on the top floor.

For such a large-scale event, the Qu Family naturally arranged for professionals to organize and prepare everything in an orderly manner without any confusion.

The Qu Family could thus free themselves up to focus on attending to the guests who came for the birthday banquet.

Even though Qin Fang didn't acknowledge being a Qu Family member, his mother, Qin Qing, did, so Qin Fang assisted on the lowest floor, which was mainly for the younger generation of the Hong Kong Island elite families, with reception handled by a few from the Qu Family's third generation.

These included Eldest Brother Qu Yuancheng, Second Young Master Qu Yuanliang, The Third Qu Yuanqiu, and Fourth Brother Qu Yuanrui... and Qin Fang, an ad-hoc helper, was roped in as well.

Chapter 1386: Miss Hu!

...

Qin Fang's status in the Qu Family is rather special. Basically, everyone treats him politely. Even Elder Master Qu, who is the most prestigious in the Qu Family, is no exception.

As for the reason behind this, only those involved would know, outsiders have no idea about the inside story, and the parties involved can't casually reveal certain secrets.

The only person who can make Qin Fang obedient is, of course, his mother, Qin Qing. He was called upon to help out, so he had no choice but to comply.

"Qin Fang, if you don't want to stay here, just go inside and rest. We'll handle things here...."

This was suggested by the few members of the Qu Family's third generation who were present. The eldest, Qu Yuancheng, who was busy entertaining the guests, couldn't help but say when he saw Qin Fang looking bored.

"Alright, I'll head over then...."

Qin Fang didn't hesitate. He practically knew none of the guests who had come over. In fact, whenever he greeted the guests, they always looked at him with a peculiar expression, seemingly wondering where he came from, requiring Qu Yuancheng to explain each time.

It's alright once or twice, but having to say it to each new guest becomes a bit annoying.

Qin Fang didn't find it troublesome, just felt a bit sorry for Qu Yuancheng, so he chose not to bother them here... That way, Qu Yuancheng and the others could handle things more smoothly.

True to his word, Qin Fang then focused on entering the banquet hall, leaving the reception duties to Qu Yuancheng and his siblings to manage.

"Hmph... just this little thing and he's already being lazy...."

Watching Qin Fang's departing figure, Qu Yuanliang grumbled discontentedly, though his voice was low, almost inaudible to anyone but himself in such an environment.

"Second Brother, don't be petty! That little spat you had with Qin Fang was ages ago, and you still can't let it go... It's enough to make me want to slap you!"

Qu Yuancheng didn't catch what Qu Yuanliang was saying, but by looking at his expression and eyes, he could guess and immediately scolded him with some irritation.

Everyone was clear about who was right and who was wrong between Qin Fang and Qu Yuanliang, so even though they were biological brothers, Qu Yuancheng still stood by Qin Fang's side.

If Qu Yuanliang's little tricks had been a bit earlier, Qin Fang might not have been able to take action, and Old Madam Qu would have been beyond saving, leaving Qu Yuanliang as a complete villain.

So even setting aside Qin Fang's status as the son of Third Young Miss Qu and their cousin, his identity as the life-saving benefactor of Old Madam Qu alone was enough to earn their deep respect.

But what Qu Yuanliang did was truly despicable....

Of course, Qin Fang did take a little revenge, dealing with Qu Yuanliang quite harshly, making them less inclined to argue over right and wrong.

Qu Yuancheng is Qu Yuanliang's elder brother, and since they are biological brothers, there's no problem with him saying this; it's the most fitting. If Third or Fourth Brother said it, it might not work.... Qu Yuancheng's words directly silenced Qu Yuanliang.

By this time, Qin Fang had already reached the banquet hall and naturally didn't know what Qu Yuanliang was saying behind his back.

Even if he knew, he wouldn't care. In his eyes, Qu Yuanliang was nothing more than a clown.

Upon entering the banquet hall, Qin Fang idly picked up a glass of wine and sat in a corner, gazing through the large floor-to-ceiling window at the alluring nightlife of Hong Kong Island.

Tang Feifei was not with Qin Fang but stayed on the top floor instead.

Qin Fang's mother, Qin Qing, needed to accompany Old Madam Qu, as her health wasn't so good, and having her accompany and take care of her was necessary. Tang Feifei was there to help, so any situation could be reported to Qin Fang immediately.

So Qin Fang ended up alone, without even a female companion by his side....

Fan Ning was in Hong Kong, but this wasn't an appropriate occasion for her to appear, so Qin Fang couldn't bring her here.

Qin Fang barely knew anyone in Hong Kong Island. Although many had arrived in the banquet hall at this time, most were strangers to him. Even the few familiar faces were acquaintances from a brief encounter during a trip to Nanshan Island, not even knowing each other's names, let alone truly knowing each other.

This is why Qin Fang found himself alone in the corner, calmly drinking wine and enjoying the Hong Kong nightlife, feeling rather leisurely and at ease.

"Is that you?"

However, this peaceful mood was soon broken by a woman's surprised voice. Qin Fang turned his head, somewhat puzzled at the woman before him.

This woman, not older than her twenties, was young and very beautiful. Her fair skin was as delicate as snow, and her face was exquisite. The light application of makeup only added to her dazzling presence.

Clad in a fiery red bustier dress, she perfectly showcased her fair and voluptuous figure, the deep cleavage barely visible.

The gown's skirt had a high slit, revealing a long, slender, and alluringly pale leg, irresistibly adding a touch of physiological impulse....

This is definitely a peerless beauty, a rare masterpiece... A perfect artwork created by the Creator! Almost comparable to Tang Feifei, they're equitably matched.

And this woman... Among the few people Qin Fang knows in Hong Kong Island, he happens to recognize her.

"Miss Hu, I didn't expect we'd meet again!"

A slight smile appeared on Qin Fang's face, and he said very politely.

This woman is none other than Miss Hu Jiajia, known as Xiaolajiao from the wealthy Hu Family in Hong Kong Island.

Qin Fang already knew that this Xiaolajiao was extremely beautiful, but when he first met her, she was in a knight's riding outfit, exuding more of a heroic and gallant aura.

But now, dressed in a sexy gown, her perfect figure was fully revealed, and the impact was much stronger than before.

Of course, it's not that the Hu Fourth Miss in front of him is more beautiful now; it's just that different outfits bring out different temperaments.

When clothed in a knight's outfit, she looked more spirited and vigorous, while the current sexy gown made her alluring and charming... like spring orchids and autumn chrysanthemums, each with their own charm and in no way inferior to one another!

Though beautiful indeed, this Xiaolajiao is just so fiery that even Qin Fang dares not provoke her lightly.

With so many recent matters to attend to, Hong Kong Island is not large, but it's not so easy for the two to cross paths, hence they only bumped into each other today.

"Hmph, why have you been avoiding me all this time?"

Fourth Miss Hu's temper is no ordinary one, and turning to face Qin Fang, she confirmed she hadn't mistaken him. Looking at Qin Fang's smiling face, Fourth Miss Hu asked, quite displeased.

"Avoiding you? No..."

Qin Fang was taken aback, saying rather helplessly, "Maybe I've been too busy lately, and you're also quite preoccupied, so it's normal not to bump into each other?"

While this was true, Qin Fang knew well that he had indeed been dodging this Fourth Miss Hu.

Why?

A while back, Qin Fang made a joke of placing a bet with this Fourth Miss Hu, and she lost. The wager was that this Xiaolajiao had to spend a night with Qin Fang.

Such a thing was just in jest for Qin Fang; he certainly didn't intend to take it seriously.

If he really did that, it would definitely be poking a hornet's nest. Heaven knows how many would want to get rid of him then, likely having assassins trailing him all year long...

It's not just he himself who understood this; Qu Yuancheng also shared the sentiment that, unless necessary, it was better not to provoke her, as it would only cause great trouble.

"Hmph... I hope that's the case!"

Although not entirely satisfied with Qin Fang's response, Fourth Miss Hu didn't dwell on it too much.

"By the way, that bet..."

Yet it seemed that her intent was not on mere idle conversation, as she quickly turned to the matter of that wager.

The mention shook Qin Fang quite a bit, slightly surprised at Fourth Miss Hu's boldness. If Qin Fang hadn't noticed that her brows were still knit, looking like an unmarried young lady, he would have suspected whether this Fourth Miss Hu was the same as those promiscuous heiresses...

But on closer inspection, he found that although Fourth Miss Hu appeared nonchalant, she was actually quite nervous, seemingly afraid Qin Fang might say something she dreaded.

"Bet? What bet..."

Qin Fang, not being insensitive, immediately put on a "I don't know what you're talking about" look, asking rather confusedly.

This Xiaolajiao came looking for him, clearly wanting to settle this matter. That wager back then was made in front of many people, and if she unilaterally broke the promise, it would severely affect her reputation.

But for her to acknowledge the wager voluntarily was unacceptable not just to her but to her family and some others concerned.

"Nothing, I must have remembered wrong..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang's answer, Xiaolajiao exhaled softly in relief, happily responding. She also threw a "smart of you" glance at Qin Fang.

But then she noticed Qin Fang also seemed to display a "finally relieved" expression, as if having dumped a heavy burden, and she was a bit displeased by this internally.

Women are quite strange; when you coddle them endlessly, they don't take you seriously.

But if you ignore them, they overthink, as though the sky is falling...

Chapter 1387: Son of the Gambling King!

...

Xiaolajiao wasn't pleased. She seemed eager to mock Qin Fang a couple of times, but after thinking about it, considering how unfavorable the bet was for her, she forcefully swallowed back the words that were on the tip of her tongue.

She took a light sniff with her dainty nose, swallowed those words back down, and only gave Qin Fang a light glare, almost like rolling her eyes, which added a bit of charm.

"Are you really Aunt Qing's son?"

Xiaolajiao's eyes rolled slightly, a small smile appeared on her face, and she asked curiously.

"As real as it gets..."

Qin Fang shrugged his shoulders. In fact, Xiaolajiao wasn't the first to ask him that, as he knew there were at least five or six people who had already asked.

The Third Young Miss Qu, who is Qin Fang's mother Qin Qing, disappeared without a trace from Hong Kong Island twenty years ago, almost never leaving a single bit of information.

And twenty years later, she returned to the Qu Family, bringing back such a big son, which truly surprised many people...

However, after twenty years, many things had become unimportant. Even Qin Qing's admirers from back then had already started families, and their children were quite grown up.

"Not like it at all..."

Xiaolajiao carefully observed Qin Fang's face for a while before saying seriously and solemnly.

"..."

Qin Fang was speechless for a moment, his expression turning rather odd.

"Hehehe... just kidding you, actually I've never even met Aunt Qing!"

Seeing the incredibly odd expression on Qin Fang's face, Xiaolajiao seemed very pleased to have gained the upper hand, but she also felt that the joke might have gone too far and immediately felt a bit embarrassed, with a slight blush appearing on her fair face.

To this, Qin Fang could only smile wryly and shake his head.

How could he not know this? Xiaolajiao's age is similar to his. Qin Qing left Hong Kong Island twenty years ago, and at that time, Xiaolajiao was probably just born and not yet able to remember things. How could she have seen Qin Qing?

As for Qin Qing coming to Hong Kong Island this time, she mostly stayed with Old Madam Qu, never left the house, and did not receive guests. Many people knew she was back, but few actually saw her.

At the moment, she was on the top floor accompanying the old madam, and these younger generations didn't have the qualifications to go up, so naturally, they couldn't see her. That's why Qin Fang had that expression when Xiaolajiao mentioned it.

Although Qin Fang wasn't particularly outstanding in appearance, if you observed carefully, you could vaguely see some similarities to Qin Qing, not entirely unlike her.

"That's what I thought too..."

For this little chili who had been thwarted and was looking to take advantage, Qin Fang couldn't say much, so he just muttered along, which made Xiaolajiao even more overjoyed.

Her smile became even more radiant, and combined with the blush that hadn't completely faded, from afar, one might think Qin Fang had flirted with her!

"Jiajia, so you're here..."

Just as Xiaolajiao was about to continue chatting with Qin Fang, a man's voice suddenly came from behind, clear and clean, with a slightly magnetic quality.

Upon hearing this voice, Xiaolajiao's beaming face immediately became a bit stern. Although she didn't fully put on a frosty expression, her smile clearly faded a lot.

She even slightly furrowed her brows, a trace of displeasure flashed in her eyes, along with a hint of helplessness...

"Is something the matter?"

But Xiaolajiao's expression quickly passed, maintaining a faint smile as she turned her head to lightly ask the man approaching her.

Her tone was average, not appearing overly distant or unfamiliar, but there was clearly a discernible sense of distance...

The man seemed to be in his mid-twenties, remarkably handsome, with a faint smile on his face. He wore a perfectly tailored tailcoat, obviously from a world-famous designer, undoubtedly expensive...

On his handsome face rested a pair of gold-rimmed glasses, giving him a sophisticated and elegant vibe. On his wrist was a limited-edition Patek Philippe watch, which perfectly combined understated elegance with luxury.

This man was absolutely from a wealthy family, at least a young and well-off elite!

"No particular reason, just came to accompany you..."

The man did not retreat from Xiaolajiao's expression, remaining calm and natural, with a faint smile as he spoke.

"Suit yourself then..."

Xiaolajiao didn't say much, just made a simple remark, and then stopped talking to him.

However, the man nodded lightly, seemingly unaffected by the distance in Xiaolajiao's words, and directly walked up to her side, even proactively spreading his arms...

Xiaolajiao was momentarily stunned, her expression showing some surprise, mixed with a hint of anger, but in the end, she didn't show it. Instead, she extended her slender arm and linked it with the man's, as if they were a perfect couple.

Qin Fang observed the interaction between these two. Judging by their current state, they seemed to be a couple, but their expressions and gazes betrayed them.

The man might be quite satisfied with Xiaolajiao, but Xiaolajiao was clearly not that pleased with him. Yet, perhaps for some reason, she felt compelled to relent.

"Your friend?"

The man, seemingly satisfied with Xiaolajiao's reaction, didn't say much. Nonetheless, when he turned his face, he noticed Qin Fang's presence and feigned a surprised expression, looking at Xiaolajiao as he asked.

"Hmm..."

But Xiaolajiao wasn't inclined to give him face, merely snorting lightly without saying a word.

"He Feifan, pleased to meet you..."

Yet, the man wasn't angered. He walked up to Qin Fang, introducing himself while extending his hand politely.

"Qin Fang..."

"Respect me an inch, and I'll respect you a foot," has always been Qin Fang's principle. Since the other was being so courteous, he couldn't act aloof. He shook the man's hand and revealed his own name.

"Qin Fang? The son of the Third Young Miss Qu, cousin of Qu Da? Nice to meet you..."

However, the man seemed to have heard of Qin Fang's name before. Upon hearing Qin Fang introducing himself, he was immensely surprised and couldn't help but shake Qin Fang's hand a few more times, appearing quite pleased.

"Nice to meet you too..."

Qin Fang also responded with a smile on his face, very calmly.

"Damn, do you have to act so fake?"

But in his heart, he couldn't help but curse.

He Feifan seemed to be acting quite genuine, yet this guy had no sincerity whatsoever, purely putting on a show.

Actually, when other people first met Qin Fang, they often spoke politely, mostly just for show. But Qin Fang never considered it fake, but when it came to He Feifan, it was entirely different.

"Sorry, a friend is calling me over there, let's chat another time..."

Fortunately, at this time, someone not far away called out to He Feifan. He too apologized slightly to Qin Fang and then left with Xiaolajiao.

With Xiaolajiao and He Feifan leaving together, Qin Fang also found peace again. Although there was no change in his expression, his mind was another matter.

"He Feifan, son of Gambling King He of Macau... no wonder..."

Although He Feifan only mentioned his name briefly, for Qin Fang, finding out his specific identity wasn't difficult.

Once the Scouting Skill was activated, all these details became clear.

Qin Fang had guessed that this handsome He Feifan came from an extraordinary background, but he didn't expect him to have such an illustrious lineage, which was indeed a bit unexpected.

If there is said to be the Ten Great Families on Hong Kong Island, then in Macau, Gambling King He's reputation is undoubtedly the greatest, even holding titles like "Uncrowned Governor of Macau" and "Rice King," as the most powerful, profitable, famous, and longest-reigning gambling king in the history of Macau's gambling industry, definitely a legendary figure.

Moreover, Gambling King He's romantic affairs are also quite notable. He married four wives serially, and as of now, except for his first wife who passed away, the other three wives are still living together.

Among these four wives, they bore Gambling King He over a dozen children, with the eldest being over sixty and the youngest just ten years or so...

Just from this aspect alone, this incredibly distinguished Gambling King He's prowess in procreation is indeed astonishing. To still be able to father so many children at such an advanced age is truly remarkable...

Recalling some details about Gambling King He, Qin Fang, though not very knowledgeable, did know some public information, such as Gambling King He having many children but relatively few sons, with only about four or five alive and none being especially old.

And judging by He Feifan's age, Qin Fang knew which one he was...

Gambling King He's children are numerous, but the more famous ones tend to be his daughters, especially several of whom are very beautiful mixed-race beauties...

He Feifan's name left no impression on Qin Fang, but he did remember his sister born from the same womb, who was a beautiful, sensual woman and quite renowned among Gambling King He's many daughters...

However, according to some tabloid gossip, this beauty, though indeed beautiful, supposedly had a rather messy private life. As for the truth of it, Qin Fang naturally couldn't know, since those tabloids might not necessarily be fabricated, but neither are they necessarily factual...

Chapter 1388: Resorting to Violence? Are You Even Worthy!!

Qin Fang already knew He Feifan's background, a very illustrious one. Although it's unlikely he'll inherit the massive family business of Gambling King He, at least he can get a small share, which is enough to live a remarkable life.

But this isn't the reason Qin Fang cares; after all, even though Gambling King He has abundant assets, when distributed to each child, it's not much.

By comparison, if it really were about wealth, Mr. He Feifan might not have as much as Kong Er.

And Qin Fang never envied them; the speed at which he earns money might not be worse than theirs, perhaps even faster.

The reason Qin Fang reacted this way towards He Feifan mainly lies in He Feifan's attitude towards Qin Fang...

On the surface, it seems like He Feifan is meeting Qin Fang for the first time, having only heard his name before, but in reality...

Qin Fang was a bit amused, wondering why He Feifan, upon meeting him for the first time, already showed such a strong hostility. Isn't it too much?

Yes, He Feifan showed considerable hostility towards Qin Fang. Despite hiding it very well, almost without a trace, he couldn't conceal the intense red aura of hostility over him, which Qin Fang could clearly perceive.

"Could it be because of Xiaolajiao?"

Qin Fang couldn't help but frown, pondering over some of the anomalies in this situation.

Theoretically, two people who've never met shouldn't have such animosity. This is simply unreasonable...

Yet it happened; He Feifan's expression could deceive others, but the red aura over him was undeniable, visible only to Qin Fang, reflecting his true inner judgment.

Thinking it over, the only clue connecting Qin Fang and He Feifan seems to be Xiaolajiao.

Based on their previous interactions, Xiaolajiao and He Feifan seemed to have an unusual relationship. Though they didn't look like a couple, their seemingly intimate posture suggested otherwise.

"You mean Xiaolajiao and that kid He Feifan? They're engaged..."

It wasn't until Kong Er came over that Qin Fang got the real answer: Xiaolajiao was He Feifan's fiancée, which explained their intimate demeanor.

Of course, such elite family partnerships are common. The couple may not genuinely feel anything for each other. Some even appear loving in public but live separate lives privately, a phenomenon not uncommon among elite couples...

The fact they don't divorce is mainly because their marriage plays a significant role in maintaining the relationship between the two families.

If Xiaolajiao and He Feifan are engaged, Xiaolajiao laughing and chatting with Qin Fang might reasonably make He Feifan jealous, even hostile towards Qin Fang.

"No, it shouldn't be that simple!"

But upon deeper reflection, Qin Fang felt this explanation didn't hold. He Feifan's hostility seemed excessively strong, nearly comparable to Qin Fang's enemies, which didn't quite add up.

"I think they actually look quite compatible together as a couple, nice indeed... By the way, what's He Feifan like as a person?"

Sitting with Kong Er, sipping drinks, Qin Fang casually chatted. Given the topic of He Feifan's identity, it was natural to mention a few more things.

"As for that kid He Feifan, better not provoke him unnecessarily... He may seem gentle, but he's truly a scumbag, narrow-minded as a needle. You never know when he'll hold a grudge! If he gets a chance, he'll surely stab you in the back, which is why many people on Hong Kong Island don't like him..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang inquire about He Feifan, Kong Er couldn't help but sneer disdainfully, directly dismissing He Feifan's character.

"Second Brother, did you suffer a loss at his hands?"

Kong Er's character was known to Qin Fang; he usually wouldn't badmouth others behind their back—at least he had that decency. So when even he said this, Qin Fang couldn't help but ask.

"It wasn't me... It was my Fourth Brother! Damn it, it pisses me off just thinking about it..."

Kong Er shook his head, obviously unsatisfied, expressing significant resentment towards He Feifan.

"Your Fourth Brother? Your sister?"

Qin Fang was taken aback. The fourth in the Kong family's third generation, if he remembered correctly, should be Kong Er's sister, whom Qin Fang had never met.

"Yeah... Originally, the He Family was supposed to marry into our Kong Family, with He Feifan and my Fourth Brother. But later... oh well, my Fourth Brother is rather stubborn. She was greatly affected by the incident and went to the United States. It's been years, and no matter how much we persuade her, she won't return..."

Talking about this matter, Kong Er also seemed quite resentful. His sister not willing to come back because of He Feifan for years is maddening to anyone.

"But I guess it's for the best. If that kid really became my brother-in-law, I can't imagine how much I'd suffer! Oh, Xiaolajiao... what a pity!"

However, Kong Er didn't think too much about it, and quickly came to terms with it. He wasn't so angry anymore, and even seemed a bit relieved.

The only pity was that Xiaolajiao, this beautiful flower, had to be paired with He Feifan, a real shame indeed. But that's how it is with prestigious families — personal happiness is much less important than family interests...

Although Kong Er didn't explain the specifics, judging from his evaluation of He Feifan, there might be some hidden matters about He Feifan. Mainly because Qin Fang is too unfamiliar with him, so he doesn't understand very clearly.

It's just that since Kong Er said this person is quite sinister, it's also understandable why he harbors some hostility toward Qin Fang today. Despite feeling something fishy, Qin Fang didn't dwell on it anymore.

Guests were gradually arriving, and the birthday banquet was officially announced to begin.

The banquet was styled as a Western cocktail party, not like the table-by-table banquet style seen in the Mainland. Perhaps this was due to Hong Kong Island's century-long colonial rule.

There's no need to debate the right or wrong...

Such a buffet-style banquet, offers more of a free atmosphere, quite distinct from the table-by-table banquets.

The elderly lady was getting on in years and her health wasn't great. If it were a traditional banquet, the guests would likely have to go over to toast her, which wouldn't be quite right.

Qin Fang also preferred this style, at least he didn't have to sit with Qu Yuancheng and others, being stared at like a monkey. This way, he could sit in a corner, sipping and drinking as he pleased. He only needed to go to the top floor to present the birthday gifts when the time came.

Kong Er also had his social circle, and naturally couldn't sit with Qin Fang the whole time. He was soon called away to discuss something of interest.

Originally, he was going to invite Qin Fang along, but since Qin Fang was not interested and didn't want to move, he gave up.

"You are Qin Fang?"

Qin Fang wanted to sit peacefully, wishing no one would disturb him. But someone decided to spoil his plan, and while Qin Fang was drinking and admiring the night view outside the window, someone slapped his shoulder and asked.

Merely being tapped on the shoulder was fine, since familiar friends often did that. However, it was this person's tone that made Qin Fang frown.

"Who are you?"

The same principle applies... Respect those who respect you.

The tone of this person wasn't too friendly, so Qin Fang responded in kind, not even bothering to look up, speaking quite dismissively.

The tone and demeanor seemed to say, "Kid, who do you think you are?"

"Wow, quite feisty, huh..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang's words, the person paused slightly, but soon regained composure, looking at Qin Fang with a playful expression, eyes filled with provocation, speaking in a peculiar tone.

"If you have something to say, say it; if not... please leave!"

This person didn't come alone; he was with three or four other young men. Qin Fang had seen one or two of them before, all young masters from prestigious families on Hong Kong Island, though he wasn't familiar with them.

Given that, they didn't count as friends, so Qin Fang didn't bother wasting words and naturally dismissed them.

As for the hand placed on his shoulder, Qin Fang blatantly ignored it, behaving as if the person were merely air.

"Brother, don't be so temperamental, it won't do you any good..."

Being repeatedly disregarded by Qin Fang, the young man's face showed a hint of annoyance. Seeing Qin Fang turn again to look at the night view outside the window, he spoke angrily while applying a slight force with his hand, seeming to attempt a harder approach since soft didn't work...

"Hmm?"

Qin Fang was also somewhat surprised.

Since coming to Hong Kong Island, he's had quite a few confrontations, but rarely has anyone dared to provoke him directly, especially not young masters from wealthy families.

"Trying to get tough? Do you even qualify?"

Feeling a slight pressure on his shoulder, Qin Fang was indifferent, reaching out to grab the person's hand, while chiding contemptuously.

Almost without any effort, that hand squeezing Qin Fang's shoulder was lifted like a chick, without the slightest resistance...

Chapter 1389: There Are No Secrets Before Me!

...

The man's face immediately changed drastically, completely underestimating Qin Fang's strength. It was much greater than his, and the two of them were not on the same level at all.

By the time he realized this, it was already too late. While regretting, he desperately tried to withdraw his hand.

It seemed that Qin Fang's hand was only lightly gripping, without much force, but he felt as if his hand was shackled by iron chains, no matter how he struggled, the shackle remained immovable...

This realization immediately made the guy's face change drastically, sweat began to trickle down his forehead, and his back was chilling, vaguely sensing something was very wrong.

When his eyes met Qin Fang's gaze, he was even more frightened by Qin Fang's look, feeling restless inside...

And this was just the beginning. Qin Fang couldn't be bullied physically and still greet people with a smile. With a light shake of his wrist, the guy immediately felt a sharp pain in his wrist, which intensified, making him feel like his wrist might break.

"Ah~~"

Feeling the pain in his wrist, the man instinctively wanted to scream in agony.

But just as he opened his mouth, before he could make a sound, he was silenced by a fierce look from Qin Fang, causing the cry at his lips to be stifled back down.

"Don't yell, don't yell..."

At the same time, Qin Fang spoke in a very calm tone, as if he were concerned about him, comforting him, completely obscuring what caused this was Qin Fang's hand.

"I'm okay at everything else, but I have a small heart. If you scream and scare me, if my hand shakes accidentally, your wrist might just break..."

Qin Fang had an expression of "I'm a good boy," solemnly explaining, as if he was merely stating a fact, but the words he said with such an expression somehow made one want to laugh...

"Don't think I'm joking; I never joke..."

Unfortunately, everyone here clearly sensed something, none of them could laugh, the guy whose wrist was grabbed by Qin Fang was the most miserable, his face was almost completely distorted, yet he could only grit his teeth and endure, showing a bit of a tough guy's demeanor...

"You... you... let go of Young Master Liang, do you know who he is?"

These people seemed to be led by this young man, seeing him subdued by Qin Fang, seemingly in pain, they all stood up wanting to help.

However, considering that Qin Fang seemed quite formidable, they didn't dare to provoke him directly, only bringing out some killer move to deal with him, like... relying on family!

"Surname Liang?"

Qin Fang was also stunned, looking at the young man in front of him with some amusement.

This young man was obviously from Hong Kong Island, and among the Top Ten Wealthy Families of Hong Kong, there was no one with the surname Liang, but these affluent young men were led by this Young Master Liang, either he had some abilities, or his identity was special...

The former possibility could be basically ruled out, perhaps this guy did have some skills, but his head wasn't working well, otherwise, he wouldn't be unknowingly used as a gun...

Then only the second possibility remained, this guy's identity was quite special...

"If I'm not mistaken, you should have some relation to the new Chief Executive. That person's age is not much older, even if he had a son, it couldn't be your age... tell me, are you his cousin or nephew?"

Qin Fang thought for a moment, then understood the young man's identity, speaking calmly without much change in expression.

"Uh..."

Qin Fang was calm, but everyone present was dumbfounded, including Young Master Liang, with expressions as if they had seen a ghost.

They could all confirm that this was their first time meeting Qin Fang; previously, neither side had any contact, yet Qin Fang could deduce all this just from Young Master Liang's surname, and he was largely correct; that was truly impressive...

"Who would have thought, that figure is quite something, yet has a brainless junior like you, truly embarrassing..."

But Qin Fang intended to finish just like that, looking at the astonished face of Young Master Liang, speaking with great disdain, and assuming a "disappointed in you" expression, as if he had slapped Young Master Liang back and forth on the face...

"You know my uncle?"

This Young Master Liang was stunned for a moment, finally thinking it over a bit and cautiously inquired.

Although Qin Fang is slightly younger than him, seeing Qin Fang's demeanor, composure, and his unperturbed, calm expression, it makes people feel that this person is quite extraordinary.

So, at this moment he didn't dare to underestimate Qin Fang, which is why he was being so cautious.

Chief Executive Leung is his biological uncle, and because he doesn't have a son, this nephew has always been treated as his own child, particularly well-cared for.

But Chief Executive Leung has reached this position, he sees many things very clearly. If his nephew offends someone remarkable, he knows exactly what kind of choice his uncle would make.

Without the aura of the Chief Executive, Young Master Liang knows his own worth. At this moment, he doesn't dare to elevate his stance; not immediately acting submissive already shows a strong backbone.

"We had a drink together more than a month ago, what do you think?"

Qin Fang spoke unceremoniously, seemingly very casually, as if this wasn't a big deal at all.

"Hiss~~"

Qin Fang was very calm, but this made all the people present completely dumbfounded.

The Chief Executive of Hong Kong Island is equivalent to the Governor before Hong Kong's return, absolutely one of the top figures on Hong Kong Island. Although he still performs his duties within the bounds of the law, his status and power are not simple.

People of such caliber, even their family members who hold power have to be very polite and respectful when they see the Chief Executive. No one dares to act overly proud.

Being able to drink with the Chief Executive is something that many people dream of.

The anti-corruption system on Hong Kong Island is very strict, and as the highest leader, the Chief Executive is bound by even stricter rules. Apart from some necessary banquets, he almost never accepts private invitations, especially from the wealthy families.

Though occasionally some might have a simple meal or drink with him due to close personal relations, those are exceptions and very rare.

But here Qin Fang can drink with the Chief Executive, making Qin Fang's identity intriguing...

Young Master Liang became nervous, even forgetting about the pain in his hand, worried that Qin Fang might complain to his uncle, which would be disastrous for him...

At this point, even if he wanted to stand firm, he couldn't. His wrist was still in the other's grasp, and his identity and background didn't serve as a shield. Other than being at the mercy of others, he had no choice.

Qin Fang wasn't just boasting; he indeed had a drink with the Chief Executive more than a month ago, and it was the Chief Executive who proposed the toast to him.

This happened during another birthday banquet that Qin Fang attended, which was for Old Master Tang's birthday. As a former leader, many came to offer birthday wishes, mostly high-ranking officials from military and political circles. As the newly appointed Chief Executive of Hong Kong Island, naturally, he was there.

Back then, Qin Fang was recognized by the Tang Family, and Old Master Tang was very pleased, inviting Qin Fang to sit beside him. Many high officials came over to toast, and Qin Fang ended up drinking with them, including the Chief Executive.

Perhaps the Chief Executive quickly forgot about Qin Fang, but Qin Fang remembers well. Despite the numerous officials toasting at the time, making it impossible to identify and remember them all, someone like Chief Executive Leung was easier to recall...

Young Master Liang chickened out, and naturally the others did too. Each of them stood nervously before Qin Fang, unable to decide whether to stay or leave, unusually hesitant.

"Look at you, with not much more courage than a mouse..."

These people had clearly accepted defeat; Qin Fang didn't find it interesting to continue stepping on them. Looking at Young Master Liang's trembling expression, he couldn't help but taunt him.

"Speak up, who sent you here?"

As Qin Fang spoke, neither Young Master Liang nor the others dared to respond. Qin Fang thought it was about time and casually asked.

They looked at each other but no one was willing to speak, even Young Master Liang, who was scared, remained silent, seemingly finding the question difficult to answer.

"What? Not willing to talk?"

Seeing their reaction, Qin Fang wasn't angry, merely asked with a playful expression, "How about this, I'll ask differently, did He Feifan send you guys to find me?"

"Uh... you know?"

With Qin Fang's question, the few people exchanged glances as if trying to identify who betrayed them. Young Master Liang looked at Qin Fang in surprise, almost instinctively asking.

"Of course I know! That guy thinks he's well hidden, but his little tricks are something I got tired of playing with by the age of seven or eight..."

Qin Fang was well aware that these people were sent by He Feifan. Having scared Young Master Liang to this extent, what secrets could remain hidden from him?

Even the fact that this guy secretly used his cousin's panties for masturbation, Qin Fang had already uncovered all the details...

Chapter 1390: Qin Fang's Gift — A Mysterious Little Wooden Box!

...

Some people looked at each other. Although they were quite suspicious of Qin Fang's words, they didn't dare to say anything unnecessary due to the pressing situation.

Even though none of them betrayed He Feifan, Qin Fang accurately guessed it was him, which made them feel slightly relieved.

At least they didn't need to worry about Qin Fang torturing them for secrets, so they felt much more at ease.

"Tell me, what does he want to do?"

Qin Fang was uninterested in what they were thinking, only asking calmly.

Since even Kong Er had said that He Feifan was a complete schemer, it was certain that his summoning of these people wasn't without purpose.

"He wants us to lure you into a gamble..."

Young Master Liang hesitated for a moment, then lowered his head and confessed honestly.

"A gamble..."

Upon hearing Young Master Liang reveal He Feifan's intentions, Qin Fang pretended to ponder deeply.

Actually, Qin Fang already knew He Feifan's plan. Still, there was a difference between understanding it himself and hearing it from someone else.

He could guess that these people were sent by He Feifan to deal with him, but how could he explain that he knew they wanted to lure him into a gamble?

The He's business mainly operated casinos, and most of the He family members had some gambling skills. He Feifan was the son of Gambling King He, and even if his skills didn't surpass his father's, he was far superior to average gamblers.

Moreover, with the He's operating casinos, there were plenty of experts under their banner. Even if he couldn't do it himself, he could call in several experts to deal with Qin Fang.

He Feifan had a cunning plan—getting Young Master Liang to lure Qin Fang to the gambling table, where he could secretly take action against him. There was even a possibility he might act personally...

They had hatred and enmity between them, and the best way to resolve it was to make one disappear. However, that seemed excessive, so making the other lose face was also a good method.

Perhaps He Feifan was confident in his gambling skills, which is why he chose this method.

He Feifan's hostility towards Qin Fang was natural, given his petty nature, so Qin Fang wasn't surprised.

"Forget it, I won't make things difficult for you... Go back and tell He Feifan that I agree. He can arrange the gamble and inform me of the time and place..."

However, Qin Fang wasn't afraid. Since someone wanted to challenge him and even offered money, he had no reason to be polite.

Gambling was not something Qin Fang feared. In fact, it was one of his strengths. He had once challenged a former Asian Gambling King to a stalemate, so why would he fear a rookie like He Feifan?

"Almost forgot, Yu Zheng should be in Macau... I wonder how he's doing recently?"

Speaking of gambling, Qin Fang naturally remembered he had a former Asian Gambling King, Yu Zheng, under his command. Ever since Yu Zheng helped Qin Fang deal with Li Rui, he had gained his freedom.

However, he and Qin Fang had an agreement. In his free time, he could do as he pleased, but he must come to Qin Fang's aid whenever needed, even if it meant abandoning everything else.

Qin Fang hadn't needed his help, though. Comparing gambling skills, Qin Fang's master-level detective skills combined with advanced cheating skills definitely surpassed Yu Zheng's former Asian Gambling King abilities... hence, there was no need for Yu Zheng's help.

"You agreed?"

Upon hearing Qin Fang's words, not only was Young Master Liang shocked, but the others were also stunned.

It was clear that He Feifan had set up a trap for Qin Fang, and now that he had seen through the scheme, instead of avoiding it, he intended to walk into it. How could they not be surprised?

"Don't bother with useless talk. Just do as I said. If you dare to waste more words, I'll make you all lose a hand..."

Qin Fang didn't bother explaining. It wasn't necessary.

Just as he finished speaking, he saw Qu Yuancheng approaching.

"Qin Fang, what's happening?"

Qu Yuancheng looked curiously at the group, asking with a hint of confusion.

"Nothing, just made some friends!"

The group looked embarrassed, but fortunately, Qin Fang saved them from embarrassment, preventing them from being thrown out, which would have been humiliating.

"What's up? Anything you need?"

Qin Fang didn't care about their reactions and asked Qu Yuancheng curiously.

"We're going to celebrate the old lady's birthday and deliver our gifts. You should come with us..."

Qu Yuancheng, although a bit puzzled, didn't give it much thought and briefly explained the purpose of his visit. Naturally, it involved Qin Fang.

"Alright, let's go together..."

Qin Fang couldn't refuse, paying respects to the elderly for no other reason than making his mom happy; he couldn't treat it lightly.

Thus, Qin Fang went along with Qu Yuancheng and the others to the top floor's banquet hall. Each of the four members of the Qu Family's third generation held a gift box, containing the gifts they planned to present.

"Where's your gift?"

However, the group soon noticed that Qin Fang was empty-handed, having brought nothing with him. Qu Yuancheng was taken aback, "You didn't get ready, did you? I have a spare gift. I'll have someone bring it to you..."

"There's no need for that. I'll definitely have something ready by then... If I let you see now, you might get jealous or feel inferior..."

Qin Fang quickly stopped him, recognizing his goodwill but finding it unnecessary. How could he forget to bring a gift? It just wasn't time to reveal it yet.

"Is it really that exaggerated..."

This was obviously Qu Yuancheng speaking.

"Acting all mysterious, did you just wrap a brick in newspaper?"

Qu Yuanliang, who was displeased with Qin Fang, naturally couldn't resist his sarcastic remarks.

"Take it out and let us see, or give us a little hint..."

Qu Yuanqiu, the sister, was a bit curious, almost to the point of pleading, although she was several years older than Qin Fang.

"You're such a show-off... I despise you!"

Even the mature and steady Qu Yuanrui couldn't help but roll his eyes, harshly criticizing Qin Fang.

"Oh, come on, you and your mysteries... Fine, whatever, let's just go over!"

Everyone found it strange, but since time was pressing, Qu Yuancheng glanced at Qin Fang's eyes, which didn't seem to be joking, and so he said no more, quickly leading everyone to the top floor.

The top floor was bustling with activity, and those who could enter here were truly the rich and noble; almost all of the truly influential people of Hong Kong Island had gathered here.

Although Qin Fang wasn't a Hong Kong Island native, as soon as he walked in, he spotted several familiar faces...

Of course, he recognized them, but they didn't recognize him!

For instance, Li Family's Superman, Song Family's old Shipping King, Hu Family's old landlord... In short, all the real bigwigs who could attend had come, giving great face to the Qu Family.

It is said that the Top Ten Wealthy Families of Hong Kong were interconnected, forming an invisible web that tightly knit various wealthy families together.

Perhaps there were conflicts between them, but somehow, they could all be considered relatives with intertwined relations.

For instance, Qu Yuancheng married Chen Qi, making the Qu Family and Chen Family connected by marriage.

And Chen Qi's brother married a daughter from the Fan Family, so the Chen Family and Fan Family are also related by marriage.

The Fan Family's daughters married into the Li Family, the Song Family, and so on, making them in-laws... Essentially, they were all interconnected and tangled, with very complex relationships.

This didn't really concern Qin Fang; he wasn't particularly interested. His primary task now was to pay respects to the old lady and present his prepared gift.

Guest gifts from outsiders were immediately registered, but only the Qu Family's own members would present their gifts at this time...

In front, Qu Yuancheng and his siblings all presented their gifts in an orderly manner. Most were carefully selected, either jewelry the old lady liked, exquisite antiques, or items with commemorative value. The old lady seemed quite satisfied with these.

It was finally Qin Fang's turn, and the old lady looked expectantly at her only grandson, appearing a bit nervous.

Not only her, but even Qin Qing beside the old lady seemed a bit nervous, as she still didn't know what her son would present as a gift.

Tang Feifei, standing beside Qin Qing, elegant and peerless, seemed to be the only one remaining calm.

Nobody else knew what Qin Fang's gift would be, but Tang Feifei had some idea. Although she hadn't seen it very clearly, she knew more than the others.

"Grandma, here's the gift from your grandson... Wishing you longevity as boundless as the East Sea and as enduring as the southern mountains!"

Qin Fang was neither rushed nor slow, reaching into his pocket and pulling out a small box, which he respectfully presented to the old lady.

It was a very rustic wooden box, the red lacquer on it already worn off, with faint traces of moss or similar substances, showing signs of having been cleaned, though it still appeared somewhat dirty.

"Is this his gift?"

"You must be joking..."

"It doesn't seem very clean; could it have germs?"

At the sight of such a small box as Qin Fang's gift, many of the guests—regardless of their significant status—couldn't help but get gossipy, discussing it in whispers.

"Good, good, good... I'll accept it!"

The old lady didn't mind at all; she seemed as if she had received some extraordinary treasure, immediately taking this seemingly not very clean wooden box with both hands.